

about their chances, head coach Jason Kreis sarcastically replied, "Wow, it sounds like we better not even go. We don't even have a chance, do we?" He knew RSL possessed something special.

Even in the final match, such outspoken optimism would be tested. By halftime, RSL was trailing 1-0. Two of their key players were unable to continue playing, sidelined by injury and illness. If ever there was a time to give up, it seemed that this was it. But that wasn't their attitude. Coach Kreis made a pair of substitutions, and encouraged his players to "be confident," and play aggressive. And, well you can see where this is going. After 90 minutes of play, 30 minutes of overtime, and seven rounds of penalty kicks that included two blocked shots by RSL goalkeeper Nick Rimando, defender Robbie Russell converted the final penalty kick to seal the victory, establishing RSL as the champions of Major League Soccer.

Now I wish to place this victory into some context. This was significant for Utah in that it was the first professional sports crown to go to the State of Utah since the Utah Stars basketball team won the American Basketball Association title back in 1971. RSL's victory was notable not only because Jason Kreis, at the age of 36, became the youngest manager in MLS history to lead his team to the title, but also because RSL became the first franchise in professional sports history to win a championship after finishing the regular season without a winning record. Think about that for a minute—if there is ever a reason to dismiss a team, a losing record in the regular season should be it. But that wasn't RSL's attitude. Rather than dwelling in self-pity and regret, RSL fought on, determined to prove their detractors wrong. They believed they could beat the entire league, and they went out and did just that. Their story exemplifies the American values of hard work, resilience, and overcoming the odds.

Once again, I congratulate RSL for their victory; I join with their fans in celebration of this championship; and I hope that this is one of many more championships to come for Utah.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### COACHED FOR LIFE

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I wish to speak about the life lessons we learn from participating in athletic activities and from the coaches who teach our young athletes. Michael T. Powers, author of many inspirational books once said, "High school sports: where lessons of life are still being learned, and where athletes still compete for the love of the game and their teammates." High school sports are a way of life across Montana and they create an important sense of community in small towns and cities all over

Big Sky country. In many areas across the state, small high schools will pool their resources to field football teams each fall; many play six or eight man games.

This year Ed Flaherty, a native Montanan co-authored the book "Coached for Life" about the experience he and his teammates had on the State champion Great Falls Central High School football team in 1962. I was inspired by the stories of these young men and how the lessons learned on the field from their coaches shaped who they became as people and their experiences later in life.

The young men that made up Great Falls Central's 1962 Championship squad truly embody the best of Montana ideals and values, like hard work and taking responsibility. They labored tirelessly both on and off the field and achieved not only athletic glory, but also learned the value of a good education and how to be role models and ambassadors for their school. Great Falls has always been a working class town and many families made significant financial sacrifices to allow their children to attend Great Falls Central, a private Catholic school. Coaches Bill Mehrens and John "Poncho" McMahon, reminded the players each day that playing football at Central was a privilege and that they had a responsibility to their teammates, their school, and the community to give it their all on each and every snap on the practice field, in the game, and in the classroom. No doubt the coaches pushed these young men each and every day, they did it to instill discipline and to make them the best they could be.

The 1962 season was a special one for Great Falls Central. The goal of the team was to win the State championship. A year earlier, the coaches drove some of their players north 115 miles to Havre to watch the State championship game, not only to scout two of the best teams in the State but also to witness a championship win. The Central players took it all in and knew they wanted to be the ones holding up the trophy the following season. The Mustangs achieved that goal, making it through the 1962 season undefeated and beating their rival, the defending State champions, Havre High 34-6 in the Montana Class A State championship game in front of more than 5,000 elated fans on their home field.

Having gone through this experience, the men later in life were able to rise up against the many challenges that were thrown their way. At a team reunion in 2002, 40 years after their championship run, the players and coaches got together to reflect and share their life stories. Some have gone on to be teachers and coaches, passing on the life lessons they learned from Mehrens and McMahon. Some, like Ed Flaherty, have achieved successful careers in business and in turn gave back to their communities. Some served their country heroically in the mili-

tary. All have taken the lessons they learned from the fall of 1962 and have helped their communities and become leaders. Ed Flaherty has compiled these stories in his book and brings to life that amazing season and what it truly means to be coached for life.●

#### TRIBUTE TO HARRY R. BADER

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I wish congratulate Fairbanks, AK, resident Mr. Harry R. Bader for being the first Civilian Response Corps-Active Officer in the United States Agency for International Development, USAID, to be trained and ready for world-wide deployment.

Mr. Bader's specialized training, which will allow him to work in high threat environments, was recognized by the Administrator of USAID in a November 23, 2009, ceremony in Washington, DC. Currently, Mr. Bader is the USAID Deputy Environmental Officer for the Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau.

USAID's Civilian Response Corps is a commendable program. The Corps plays an integral part in U.S. national security strategy. One of their missions is to bring coordination to military and civilian efforts in order to stabilize fragile states and to improve the effectiveness of counter-insurgency operations.

As an active officer, Mr. Bader's environmental security specialty will be brought to bear in those areas of the developing world where scarcity or degradation of natural resource contribute to conflict. His task will be to find ways to reduce the means and motivations for violence.

Mr. Bader's diverse educational and professional backgrounds make him well suited to excel as a Civilian Response Corps-Active Officer. He has a law degree from Harvard and B.A. from Washington State University. His career has been one of distinction and variety as a professor, author, researcher, lecturer, natural resource manager and consultant.

He taught at the University of Alaska Fairbanks as an associate professor of resources policy at the School of Natural Resources Management. During his tenure, he served on the Alaska Sea Grant Legal Research Team, which was created in response to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill to help strengthen oversight of hazardous materials.

At the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Mr. Bader was the northern region land manager in Fairbanks, where he was responsible for the stewardship of 40 million acres of public land in the arctic and boreal regions of Alaska. He often collaborated with industry and academia in developing land use policy.

Until recently, Mr. Bader was active with the Betula group, a consulting firm he founded which specializes in resource management issues in challenging social and physical environments. He travelled to Tajikistan, Iraq,